



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Southern Regional Office (SRO)

400 W. Congress, Suite 433, Tucson, AZ 85701

**DRAFT Minutes of the
Broadway-Pantano Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site
Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting - 25th Meeting**

May 14, 2003, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Eastside City Hall, 7575 E. Speedway
Tucson, Arizona

E-5460.14.6.1.2

CAB Members Present: Judy Burns, James (Digger) Jones, Ries Lindley, Walter Schaffer

CAB Members Absent: Cheri Bludau, Dolores Fife, James Garrett, Jr., Patricia Gehlen, Janet Marcus, Aubrey McMullen, Jackie Olson, Wanda Ryckman, Jean Sabo, Ward Wallingford

ADEQ Staff Present: Gretchen Wagenseller, ADEQ Project Manager; Eileen Palese, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator

Members of the Public Present: Ray Murray, Michael Smith, Les Stein, Bob Greene, Tajuana Watssen, Ralph Marra, Tom Kimmel

1. Call to Order/Introductions

CAB Co-chair, Judy Burns, conducted introductions of CAB members and public participants.

2. Approval of Minutes

Because a quorum was not present, a vote on the minutes from the March 12, 2003, CAB meeting was tabled until the next meeting.

3. Final Nominations and Vote for Co-Chairs

Because a quorum was not present, final nominations and a vote for co-chairs was tabled until the next meeting.

4. Call to the Public

Tajuana Watssen, who said she was new to the area, attended the meeting because she received the newsletter from the CAB; she asked questions about the presence of

perchlorate in Tucson groundwater. Ries Lindley, with Tucson Water, said perchlorate is not a contaminant of concern in this area, however the city does test for hundreds of constituents. He offered to have a Tucson Water water quality expert call her to answer any questions she may have. An ADEQ Broadway-Pantano WQARF Site Fact Sheet was provided to her.

Judy Burns said that Tucson Water has a policy to shut down a drinking water well when the concentration of a volatile organic compound is detected at one-half the drinking water standard (Maximum Contaminant Level). She said the plume of contamination at the landfill is some 300 feet below surface and unless someone is drinking water from a private well, there is no danger. She mentioned that the newly installed Western Groundwater Containment system should help to contain the plume of contamination. Judy Burns invited Tajuana Watssen to join the CAB.

5. Report on Western Containment System Dedication Ceremony

Eileen Palese provided an overview of the event held May 2 at the containment site and said the turnout was quite good with several community members in the audience along with public officials. She offered extra programs which listed the speakers and acknowledgments. Judy Burns said she appreciated that nine CAB members attended the dedication ceremony and said she asked them to stand to be acknowledged for their three years of working on the CAB toward this goal. She said she thought it was a good ceremony and a good turnout. The press also covered the event.

6. WQARF Advisory Board Meeting Update

No one present had attended the WQARF Advisory Board meeting. The report will take place at the next meeting.

7. Site Update + Q&A: Gretchen Wagenseller, ADEQ Project Manager

Ralph Marra, chief hydrologist for Tucson Water, was asked about perchlorate in the Tucson area water supply. He said there may have been some low detections in CAP water, but no perchlorate is detected in any of the recovered water served to the community. He said there are no federal standards for this chemical. Gretchen Wagenseller said she believes the state is working on a standard and she will check into the question.

Ray Murray, City of Tucson, provided a brief summary of the Western Groundwater Containment System operations. He explained how the flow of the water is split when it reaches the system and then filtered. He pointed out where the well C-26B, at the Alamo Wash and Rosewood, is located, and how it is connected by the pipeline. He said the system fits in with Tucson Water's long-range plan, developing a capture zone, where water can be treated and reinjected. He said that this will help to restore the aquifer, which will cause the water table to rise again. He said they estimate that the system will operate for 20 years.

He reported that, so far, the concentrations of contaminants are low. They are moving 2 million gallons of water per day through the system. He said the success of the soil vapor extraction system at the landfill has kept concentrations low. He said they are currently pumping 800 gallons per minute through the system.

He said that rebound testing was performed on the soil gas at the SVE system, and resulted in very low levels of contaminants were detected. He said that the state will eventually develop a method for future testing of soil gas at the landfill.

Ray Murray answered audience questions about other chemicals that might affect the groundwater. He said heavy metals tend to stay near the surface and don't get into the groundwater in the Tucson area. He said soil samples from the landfill have not shown PCBs to be present.

Gretchen Wagenseller said that the methane monitoring and methane mitigation system is up and running and the new property owner is in compliance. The owner wants to get moving on selling the property for development.

Gretchen Wagenseller reported that the draft Remedial Investigation Report is being prepared and should be completed by the end of June. The next step will be to prepare a Land and Water Use study. These documents will then be made available for public comment, possibly in the fall. She said they have been completing field work with existing funds before the fiscal year ends.

She said soil sampling and soil gas testing were performed along the southwest perimeter of the landfill. She does not have the results yet but hopes to present the data to the CAB at the next meeting. She said due to budget constraints in the next fiscal year, limited monitoring of the groundwater will take place.

She showed a map of preliminary soil gas testing results and explained the testing methods. (Air within soil is referred to as soil gas.) She said she hopes to have more soil gas testing results by the time of the next meeting. She answered questions from the public participants about the contamination sources at the landfill.

Ray Murray offered to provide tours of the Western Groundwater Containment System. People can arrange a tour by calling him at 791-5414. Judy Burns said that TUSD schools might want to take neighborhood schools on field trips of the system.

Future water resources and subsidence problems due to high water demand were discussed.

8. Report on Results of the CAB Newsletter Mailing

Eileen Palese reported that the mailing of the CAB newsletter had a terrific response. She said ADEQ received 180 reply cards back from residents. She said 17 of them required a written or verbal response and 46 provided comments but did not require a response. She said 130 people asked to be added to the site mailing list. She read some of the comments to the CAB.

9. CAB Outreach Reports

Judy Burns said she appeared on an Access Tucson television show with City of Tucson Environmental Management representatives. It was a live half-hour program, but she said no one called in to ask a question.

10. Other Administrative Business

No other business was raised.

11. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Discussion

The next meeting of the Broadway-Pantano CAB will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 2003 at Eastside City Hall, 7575 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ. Call Eileen Palese, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, SRO, at (520) 628-6712, for meeting information and proposed agenda.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

This meeting was recorded on cassette tapes as a record of the proceedings. To listen to the tape(s), or for additional documents mentioned in these minutes, contact ADEQ's Southern Regional Office, Community Involvement Office, 520/628-6712.

**Minutes prepared by: Eileen Palese 7/30/03
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